tion of pulses with improved technology on large scale through these schemes. Pulses have also been brought under the Technology Mission in the Department of Agriculture & Co-operation.

Three Tier Blocking System in Punjab

2319. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the three tier blocking system in the forward areas of Punjab has proved effective to curb the armed intrusions from across the border; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b) The measures adopted on the Punjab border to prevent *inter alia* armed intrusions from across the border have been yielding encouraging results. Apart from the increased number of apprehensions on the border, these measures have also helped to instil confidence among the local population.

[*Translation*]

Crop Insurance Scheme

2320. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme in Madhya Pradesh during 1990-91; and

(b) the target fixed for 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Total number of farmers covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) are 2,12,877 in Madhya Pradesh during the year 1990-91.

(b) The CCIS is a voluntary scheme. Implementing States/UTs are free to implement it in any area. Accordingly, no State-wise targets are fixed under the scheme. However, at the national level a target of covering 52 lakh farmers has been fixed for 1991-92 under the CCIS.

Sanctioning of Mining Lease

2321. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide submission of mining plans as essential before the agreement and after the sanctioning the mining lease by the State Government in the existing rules; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 have been amended from 19-10-1989 to provide that in the case of an application for grant of mining lease, the mining plan duly approved may be submitted within a period of six months after the precise area which is proposed to be granted is communicated to the applicant by the State Government.

[*English*]

Return of Travancore House to Kerala

2322. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not returning the Travancore House in New Delhi to the Government of Kerala;

(b) the reasons for not shifting the offices of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission lo-